

Remarks

Claims 1-48 were pending. By this amendment claims 23-24, 33-34, and 36-38 are cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-22, 25-32, 35, and 39-48 are now pending.

The claims were amended to comply with U.S. practice. For example, multiple dependencies were removed, figure numbers were replaced with sequence identifiers, and antecedent basis was corrected. Claims 25 and 27 were amended to clarify the claims.

Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification, for example:

Claim 18: original claims 23 and 24.

Claim 32: original claim 33.

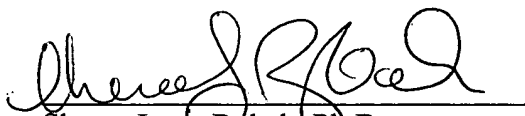
Claim 35: original claims 36-38.

The specification was amended to include reference to the priority applications and to include sequence identifiers.

No new matter is added by this amendment. If there are any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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